

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NOS. 97-079-C & 97-080-C - ORDER NO. 97-369
MAY 2, 1997

IN RE: Docket No. 97-079-C - Request of United)	ORDER
Telephone Company of the Carolinas for)	GRANTING
Revisions to its Access Services Tariff)	CONTINUANCE
Removing Coin/Pay Telephone Services as)	AND OTHER
Tariffed Offerings in response to FCC)	RELIEF
Order No. 96-128.)	
)	
AND)	
)	
Docket No. 97-080-C - Request of United)	
Telephone Company of the Carolinas for)	
Revisions to its General Subscriber)	
Services Tariff in Response to FCC Order,)	
Docket No. 96-128 regarding Payphone)	
Deregulation.)	

This matter is before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on a Motion for Continuance of the hearing in these matters and other relief filed by the South Carolina Public Communications Association (SCPCA). SCPCA notes that the Commission hearing in these matters is set for June 12, 1997. SCPCA notes that the FCC's recent clarification of intrastate filing requirements and limited waiver make it impossible to fully and effectively develop the records and hear these matters in such a short time frame. Also, according to SCPCA, any amended tariff filings will need to be noticed to the public. For these reasons, SCPCA requests a continuance of the

hearing. According to SCPCA, the continuance will serve the public and all parties in the proceeding by allowing for the development of full and complete records upon which the Commission may rule.

The Commission has examined this matter, and agrees with SCPCA that recent clarification of intrastate filing requirements and limited waiver will make it impossible to fully and effectively develop records in these cases and hear the matters in such a short time frame. Therefore, the Commission grants the continuance.

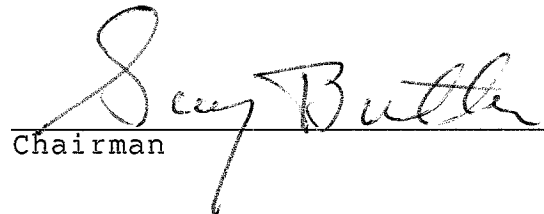
In addition, SCPCA alleges that United Telephone Company of the Carolinas' (United or the Company) proposed tariffs in this Docket fail the "new services test" under Federal law in various particulars, and that the tariffs are discriminatory on their face. SCPCA therefore asks for an investigation into United's rates for the basic payphone line and unbundled features, and states that such an investigation would serve the public convenience and necessity. SCPCA also questions the Company's eligibility for dial around compensation, and requests that this Commission issue a data request to investigate United's basic and coin line services and unbundled network features.

Accordingly, because of these allegations and requests, we hereby order Staff to conduct an investigation to review United's entire tariffs for payphone service with regard to the issues alleged in the Motion. Staff shall also issue the requested Data Requests. Further, we will accept any amended tariff revisions of

United into the present Dockets, requiring any such amendments to be noticed to the public. We also hereby order United to restructure its tariffs for payphone services to comply fully with the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as implemented by the FCC through the Payphone Orders issued in CC Docket No. 96-128. Further, United shall reimburse or provide credit to its payphone customers from April 15, 1997, if the newly approved rates are lower than existing tariffed rates.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)